NOTICES OF EXEMPT RULEMAKING

The Administrative Procedure Act requires the *Register* publication of the rules adopted by the state's agencies under an exemption from all or part of the Administrative Procedure Act. Some of these rules are exempted by A.R.S. §§ 41-1005 or 41-1057; other rules are exempted by other statutes; rules of the Corporation Commission are exempt from Attorney General review pursuant to a court decision as determined by the Corporation Commission.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED EXEMPT RULEMAKING

TITLE 9. HEALTH SERVICES

CHAPTER 22. ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

Editor's Note: The following Notice of Exempt Rulemaking was reviewed per Executive Order 2012-03 as issued by Governor Brewer. (See the text of the executive order on page 1656.) The Governor's Office authorized the notice to proceed through the rulemaking process on June 13, 2012.

[R12-114]

PREAMBLE

1. Article, Part, or Section Affected (as applicable) — **Rulemaking Action**

R9-22-712.01	Amend
R9-22-712.20	Amend
R9-22-712.30	Amend
R9-22-712.40	Amend

2. Citations to the agency's statutory rulemaking authority to include:

i. The authorizing statute (general):
A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(F); Arizona Laws 2011, Ch. 31, § 34

ii. The implementing statute (specific):
A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H); Arizona Laws 2012, Ch. 122, § 7; Arizona Laws 2012, Ch. 299, §§ 19, 20, 32, 34

iii. The statute or session law authorizing the exemption
Arizona Laws 2011, Ch. 31, § 34(C)

3. Citations to all related notices published in the *Register* as specified in R1-1-409(A) that pertain to the record of the proposed rule:
None

4. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the rulemaking:

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Address:	701 E. Jefferson St. Phoenix, AZ 85034
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5. An agency's justification and reason why a rule should be made, amended, repealed or renumbered, to include an explanation about the rulemaking:

The purpose of this rulemaking is to maintain reimbursement reductions for inpatient and outpatient hospital services covered through the AHCCCS program that were instituted last contract year (October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012) and to eliminate adjustments to those rates based on inflation. The AHCCCS Administration has made a determination that this action is one of many necessary to implement the program within the agency's actual and anticipated appropriation for the year beginning October 1, 2012. Rate reductions were instituted for the 2011-2012 contract year for virtually all institutional and non-institutional services covered under AHCCCS. This rulemaking relates specifically to inpatient hospital services reimbursed through the tiered per diem methodology, the "outlier" methodology for admissions with extraordinary costs relative to the length of stay, and outpatient hospital services

whether reimbursed through the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule or through a cost-to-charge methodology.

This rulemaking is based on several different enactments during the Second Regular Session of the 50th Legislature. Primarily, AHCCCS relies on Laws 2012, Ch. 299, § 32, provides that it is the intent of the legislature that for fiscal year 2012-2013 the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, Administration implement a program within the available appropriation. Specifically, Laws 2012, Ch. 299, § 20, provides that, for the contract year beginning October 1, 2012, AHCCCS may continue the five per cent reduction in payments for institutional services that were in effect on October 1, 2011. Laws 2012, Ch. 299, § 34, provides that it is the intent of the legislature that the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, Administration revise its rules to eliminate automatic adjustments to outpatient hospital fee schedule rates by any inflation index. Laws 2012, Ch. 299, § 19, provides that, for the contract year beginning October 1, 2012, AHCCCS may elect to not adjust outpatient hospital fee schedule rates by any inflation index.

In addition, Laws 2012, Ch. 122, § 7, amended A.R.S. § 36-2903.01 by deleting subsection (G) and renumbering subsection (H) as subsection (G). In addition, the renumbered subsection (G) was amended to:

1. End the requirement for reimbursement of inpatient hospital services using the tiered per diem methodology described in statute effective September 30, 2013;
2. End the requirement for the annual adjustment of tiered per diem payments a capital related costs by an inflation factor effective September 30, 2011; and
3. Require AHCCCS to obtain legislative approval before adopting a reimbursement methodology applicable to inpatient dates of service after October 1, 2013.

Consistent with this provision of the recent legislation, the agency anticipates initiating separate rulemaking in 2013 to address the reimbursement methodology for inpatient hospital services provided after September 30, 2013.

This rulemaking is exempt from the requirements of Title 41, Chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes. Arizona Laws 2011, Ch. 31, § 34(C) provides that: "The Arizona health care cost containment system administration is exempt from the rule making requirements of title 41, chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, for one year after the effective date of this act, to implement the requirements of section 36-2903.01, subsection H, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act." The methods for reimbursement of inpatient and outpatient hospital services are described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H). The general effective date of the enactments of the 50th Legislature, 1st Regular Session was July 20, 2011; therefore, the agency is exempt from the requirements of rulemaking otherwise required by law through July 19, 2012.

6. A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and proposes either to rely on or not to rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:

A study was not relevant or relied upon for the promulgation of this rule.

7. A showing of good cause why the rulemaking is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rulemaking will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

Not applicable

8. The preliminary summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact:

The aggregate expenses are driven by a various amount of factors, such as utilization and enrollment. This rule keeps in place reductions that were put in place last year beginning 10/01/11; therefore, holding the entire variables constant, the estimated impact of this rulemaking relative to last year is $0. The estimated impacts of last year's change are a five percent reduction of Outpatient payments for FFY2010 estimated at $34.4 million and a five percent reduction of Inpatient payments for FFY2010 estimated at $78.6 million.

9. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the economic, small business and consumer impact statement:

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10. The time, place, and nature of the proceedings to make, amend, repeal, or renumber the rule, or if no proceeding is scheduled, where, when, and how persons may request an oral proceeding on the proposed rule:

Please provide comments either by e-mail or mail by the close of the comment period July 14, 2012, to the contact listed above.

11. All agencies shall list other matters prescribed by statute applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules. Additionally, an agency subject to Council review under A.R.S. §§ 41-1052 and 41-1055 shall respond to the following questions:

Not applicable

12. A list of any incorporated by reference material as specified in A.R.S. § 41-1028 and its location in the rules:

None

13. The full text of the rules follows:

TITLE 9. HEALTH SERVICES

CHAPTER 22. ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 7. STANDARDS FOR PAYMENTS

Section

ARTICLE 7. STANDARDS FOR PAYMENTS

R9-22-712.01. Inpatient Hospital Reimbursement

Inpatient hospital reimbursement. The Administration shall pay for covered inpatient acute care hospital services provided to eligible persons with admissions on and after October 1, 1998, on a prospective reimbursement basis. The prospective rates represent payment in full, excluding quick-pay discounts, slow-pay penalties, and third-party payments for both accommodation and ancillary department services. The rates include reimbursement for operating and capital costs. The Administration shall make reimbursement for direct graduate medical education as described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01. For payment purposes, the Administration shall classify each AHCCCS inpatient hospital day of care into one of several tiers appropriate to the services rendered. The rate for a tier is referred to as the tiered per diem rate of reimbursement. The number of tiers is seven and the maximum number of tiers payable per continuous stay is two. Payment of outlier claims, transplant claims, or payment to out-of-state hospitals, freestanding psychiatric hospitals, and other specialty facilities may differ from the inpatient hospital tiered per diem rates of reimbursement described in this Section.

1. Tier rate data. The Administration shall base tiered per diem rates effective on and after October 1, 1998 on Medicare Cost Reports for Arizona hospitals for fiscal years ending in 1996 and a database consisting of inpatient hospital claims and encounters for dates of service matching each hospital's 1996 fiscal year end.
    a. Medicare Cost Report data. Because Medicare Cost Report years are not standard among hospitals and were not audited at the time of the rate calculation, the Administration shall inflate all the costs to a common point in time as described in subsection (2) for each component of the tiered per diem rates. The Administration shall not make any changes to the tiered per diem rates if the Medicare Cost Report data are subsequently updated or adjusted. If a single Medicare Cost Report is filed for more than one hospital, the Administration shall allocate the costs to each of the respective hospitals. A hospital shall submit information to assist the Administration in this allocation.
    b. Claim and encounter data. For the database, the Administration shall use only those inpatient hospital claims paid by the Administration and encounters that were accepted and processed by the Administration at the time the database was developed for rates effective on and after October 1, 1998. The Administration shall subject the claim and encounter data to a series of data quality, reasonableness, and integrity edits and shall exclude from the database or adjust claims and encounters that fail these edits. The Administration shall also exclude from the database the following claims and encounters:
        i. Those missing information necessary for the rate calculation,
        ii. Medicare crossovers,
        iii. Those submitted by freestanding psychiatric hospitals, and
        iv. Those for transplant services or any other hospital service that the Administration would pay on a basis other than the tiered per diem rate.
2. Tier rate components. The Administration shall establish inpatient hospital prospective tiered per diem rates based on the sum of the operating and capital components. The rate for the operating component is a statewide rate for each tier

except for the NICU and Routine tiers, which are based on peer groups. The rate for the capital component is a blend of statewide and hospital-specific values, as described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01. The Administration shall use the following methodologies to establish the rates for each of these components.

a. Operating component. Using the Medicare Cost Reports and the claim and encounter database, the Administration shall compute the rate for the operating component as follows:
   i. Data preparation. The Administration shall identify and group into department categories, the Medicare Cost Report data that provide ancillary department cost-to-charge ratios and accommodation costs per day. To comply with 42 CFR 447.271, the Administration shall limit cost-to-charge ratios to 1.00 for each ancillary department.
   ii. Operating cost calculation. To calculate the rate for the operating component, the Administration shall derive the operating costs from claims and encounters by combining the Medicare Cost Report data and the claim and encounter database for all hospitals. In performing this calculation, the Administration shall match the revenue codes on the claims and encounters to the departments in which the line items on the Medicare Cost Reports are grouped. The ancillary department cost-to-charge ratios for a particular hospital are multiplied by the covered ancillary department charges on each of the hospital's claims and encounters. The AHCCCS inpatient days of care on the particular hospital's claims and encounters are multiplied by the corresponding accommodation costs per day from the hospital's Medicare Cost Report. The ancillary cost-to-charge ratios and accommodation costs per day do not include medical education and capital costs. The Administration shall inflate the resulting operating costs for the claims and encounters of each hospital to a common point in time, December 31, 1996, using the DRI inflation factor and shall reduce the operating costs for the hospital by an audit adjustment factor based on available national data and Arizona historical experience in adjustments to Medicare reimbursable costs. The Administration shall further inflate operating costs to the midpoint of the rate year (March 31, 1999).
   iii. Operating cost tier assignment. After calculating the operating costs, the Administration shall assign the claims and encounters used in the calculation to tiers based on diagnosis, procedure, or revenue codes, or NICU classification level, or a combination of these. For the NICU tier, the Administration shall further assign claims and encounters to NICU Level II or NICU Level III peer groups, based on the hospital's certification by the Arizona Perinatal Trust. For the Routine tier, the Administration shall further assign claims and encounters to the general acute care hospital or rehabilitation hospital peer groups, based on state licensure by the Department of Health Services. For claims and encounters assigned to more than one tier, the Administration shall allocate ancillary department costs to the tiers in the same proportion as the accommodation costs. Before calculating the rate for the operating component, the Administration shall identify and exclude any claims and encounters that are outliers as defined in subsection (6).
   iv. Operating rate calculation. The Administration shall set the rate for the operating component for each tier by dividing total statewide or peer group hospital costs identified in this subsection within the tier by the total number of AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care reflected in the claim and encounter database for that tier.

b. Capital component. For rates effective October 1, 1999 the capital component is calculated as described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01.

c. Statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio. For dates of service prior to October 1, 2007, the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio is used for payment of outliers, as described in subsections (4), (5), and (6), and out-of-state hospitals, as described in R9-22-712(B). The Administration shall calculate the AHCCCS statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio by using the Medicare Cost Report data and claim and encounter database described in subsection (1) and used to determine the tiered per diem rates. For each hospital, the covered inpatient days of care on the claims and encounters are multiplied by the corresponding accommodation costs per day from the Medicare Cost Report. Similarly, the covered ancillary department charges on the claims and encounters are multiplied by the ancillary department cost-to-charge ratios. The accommodation costs per day and the ancillary department cost-to-charge ratios for each hospital are determined in the same way described in subsection (2)(a) but include costs for operating and capital. The Administration shall then calculate the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio by summing the covered accommodation costs and ancillary department costs from the claims and encounters for all hospitals and dividing by the sum of the total covered charges for these services for all hospitals.

d. Unassigned tiered per diem rates. If a hospital has an insufficient number of claims to set a tiered per diem rate, the Administration shall pay that hospital the statewide average rate for that tier.

3. Tier assignment. The Administration shall assign AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care to tiers based on information submitted on the inpatient hospital claim or encounter including diagnosis, procedure, or revenue codes, peer group, NICU classification level, or a combination of these.

   a. Tier hierarchy. In assigning claims for AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care to a tier, the Administration shall follow the Hierarchy for Tier Assignment in R9-22-712.09. The Administration shall not pay a claim for inpa-

tient hospital services unless the claim meets medical review criteria and the definition of a clean claim. The Administration shall not pay for a hospital stay on the basis of more than two tiers, regardless of the number of interim claims that are submitted by the hospital.

b. Tier exclusions. The Administration shall not assign to a tier or pay AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care that do not occur during a period when the person is eligible. Except in the case of death, the Administration shall pay claims in which the day of admission and the day of discharge are the same, termed a same day admit and discharge, including same day transfers, as an outpatient hospital claim. The Administration shall pay same day admit and discharge claims that qualify for either the maternity or nursery tiers based on the lesser of the rate for the maternity or nursery tier, or the outpatient hospital fee schedule.

c. Seven tiers. The seven tiers are:

i. Maternity. The Administration shall identify the Maternity Tier by a primary diagnosis code. If a claim has an appropriate primary diagnosis, the Administration shall pay the AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care on the claim at the maternity tiered per diem rate.

ii. NICU. The Administration shall identify the NICU Tier by a revenue code. A hospital does not qualify for the NICU tiered per diem rate unless the hospital is classified as either a NICU Level II or NICU Level III perinatal center by the Arizona Perinatal Trust. The Administration shall pay AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care on the claim that meet the medical review criteria for the NICU tier and have a NICU revenue code at the NICU tiered per diem rate. The Administration shall pay any remaining AHCCCS inpatient hospital day on the claim that does not meet NICU Level II or NICU Level III medical review criteria at the nursery tiered per diem rate.

iii. ICU. The Administration shall identify the ICU Tier by a revenue code. The Administration shall pay AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care on the claim that meets the medical review criteria for the ICU tier and has an ICU revenue code at the ICU tiered per diem rate. The Administration may classify any AHCCCS inpatient hospital days on the claim without an ICU revenue code, as surgery, psychiatric, or routine tiers.

iv. Surgery. The Administration shall identify the Surgery Tier by a revenue code and a valid surgical procedure code that is not on the AHCCCS excluded surgical procedure list. The excluded surgical procedure list identifies minor procedures such as sutures that do not require the same hospital resources as other procedures. The Administration shall only split a surgery tier with an ICU tier. AHCCCS shall pay at the surgery tier rate only when the surgery occurs on a date during which the member is eligible.

v. Psychiatric. The Administration shall identify the Psychiatric Tier by either a psychiatric revenue code and a psychiatric diagnosis or any routine revenue code if all diagnosis codes on the claim are psychiatric. The Administration shall not split a claim with AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care in the psychiatric tier with any tier other than the ICU tier.

vi. Nursery. The Administration shall identify the Nursery Tier by a revenue code. The Administration shall not split a claim with AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care in the nursery tier with any tier other than the NICU tier.

vii. Routine. The Administration shall identify the Routine Tier by revenue codes. The routine tier includes AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care that are not classified in another tier or paid under any other provision of this Section. The Administration shall not split the routine tier with any tier other than the ICU tier.

4. Annual update. The Administration shall annually update the inpatient hospital tiered per diem rates through September 30, 2011.

5. New hospitals. For rates effective on and after October 1, 1998, the Administration shall pay new hospitals the statewide average rate for each tier, as appropriate. The Administration shall update new hospital tiered per diem rates annually through September 30, 2011.

6. Outliers. The Administration shall reimburse hospitals for AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care identified as outliers under this Section by multiplying the covered charges on a claim by the Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratio. The Urban cost-to-charge ratio will be used for hospitals located in a county of 500,000 residents or more. The Rural cost-to-charge ratio will be used for hospitals located in a county of fewer than 500,000 residents.

a. Outlier criteria. For rates effective on and after October 1, 1998, the Administration set the statewide outlier cost threshold for each tier at the greater of three standard deviations from the statewide mean operating cost per day within the tier, or two standard deviations from the statewide mean operating cost per day across all the tiers. If the covered costs per day on a claim exceed the urban or rural cost threshold for a tier, the claim is considered an outlier. Outliers will be paid by multiplying the covered charges by the applicable Medicare Urban or Rural CCR. The resulting amount will be the outlier payment. If there are two tiers on a claim, the Administration shall determine whether the claim is an outlier by using a weighted threshold for the two tiers. The weighted threshold is calculated by multiplying each tier rate by the number of AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care for that tier and dividing the product by the total tier days for that hospital. Routine maternity stays shall be excluded from outlier reimbursement. A routine maternity is any one-day stay with a delivery of one or two babies. A routine maternity stay will be paid at tier.

b. Update. The CCR is updated annually by the Administration for dates of service beginning October 1, using the most current Medicare cost-to-charge ratios published or placed on display by CMS by August 31 of that year. The Administration shall update the outlier cost thresholds for each hospital through September 30, 2011 as described under A.R.S. § 36-2903.01. For ~~the rate year effective~~ inpatient hospital admissions with begin dates of service on and after October 1, 2011 ~~to September 30, 2012~~, AHCCCS will increase the outlier cost thresholds by ~~5%~~ five percent of the thresholds that were effective on September 30, 2011.

c. Medicare Cost-to-Charge Ratio Phase-In. AHCCCS shall phase in the use of the Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratios for outlier determination, calculation and payment. The three-year phase-in does not apply to out-of-state or new hospitals.

i. Medicare Cost-to-Charge Ratio Phase-In outlier determination and threshold calculation. For outlier claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, AHCCCS shall adjust each hospital specific inpatient cost-to-charge ratio in effect on September 30, 2007 by subtracting one-third of the difference between the hospital specific inpatient cost-to-charge ratio and the effective Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratio. For outlier claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009, AHCCCS shall adjust each hospital specific inpatient cost-to-charge ratio in effect on September 30, 2007 by subtracting two-thirds of the difference between the hospital specific inpatient cost-to-charge ratio and the effective Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratio. The adjusted hospital specific inpatient cost-to-charge ratios shall be used for all calculations using the Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratios, including outlier determination, and threshold calculation.

ii. Medicare Cost-to-Charge Ratio Phase-In calculation for payment. For payment of outlier claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, AHCCCS shall adjust the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio in effect on September 30, 2007 by subtracting one-third of the difference between the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio and the effective Medicare urban or rural cost-to-charge ratio. For payment of outlier claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009, AHCCCS shall adjust the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio in effect on September 30, 2007 by subtracting two-thirds of the difference between the statewide inpatient hospital cost-to-charge ratio and the effective Medicare urban or rural cost-to-charge ratio.

iii. Medicare Cost-to-Charge Ratio for outlier determination, threshold calculation, and payment. For outlier claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2009, the full Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratios shall be utilized for all outlier calculations.

d. Cost-to-Charge Ratio used for qualification and payment of outlier claims.

i. For qualification and payment of outlier claims with begin dates of service on or after April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011, the CCR will be equal to ~~95%~~ 95 percent of the ratios in effect on October 1, 2010.

ii. For qualification and payment of outlier claims with begin dates of service on or after October 1, 2011 ~~through September 30, 2012~~, the CCR will be equal to ~~90.25%~~ 90.25 percent of the most recent published Urban or Rural Medicare CCR as described in subsection (6)(b) ~~as of August 31, 2011~~.

iii. ~~In addition, for~~ For qualification and payment of outlier claims with begin dates of service on or after October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012, AHCCCS will reduce the cost-to-charge ratio determined under subsection (6)(d)(ii) for a hospital that filed a charge master with ADHS on or after April 1, 2011 by an additional percentage equal to the total percent increase reported on the charge master.

iv. Subject to approval by CMS, for qualification and payment of outlier claims with begin dates of service on or after October 1, 2012, AHCCCS will reduce the cost-to-charge ratio determined under subsection (6)(d)(ii) for a hospital that filed a charge master with ADHS on or after June 1, 2012 by an additional percentage equal to the total percent increase reported on the charge master.

7. Transplants. The Administration shall reimburse hospitals for an AHCCCS inpatient stay in which a covered transplant as described in R9-22-206 is performed through the terms of the relevant contract. As described in R9-22-716, if the Administration and a hospital that performs transplant surgery on an eligible person do not have a contract for the transplant surgery, the Administration shall not reimburse the hospital more than what would have been paid to the contracted hospital for that same surgery.
8. Ownership change. The Administration shall not change any of the components of a hospital's tiered per diem rates upon an ownership change.
9. Psychiatric hospitals. The Administration shall pay freestanding psychiatric hospitals an all-inclusive per diem rate based on the contracted rates used by the Department of Health Services.
10. Specialty facilities. The Administration may negotiate, at any time, reimbursement rates for inpatient specialty facilities or inpatient hospital services not otherwise addressed in this Section as provided by A.R.S. § 36-2903.01. For purposes of this subsection, "specialty facility" means a facility where the service provided is limited to a specific population, such as rehabilitative services for children.
11. Outliers for new hospitals. Outliers for new hospitals will be calculated using the Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratio times covered charges. If the resulting cost is equal to or above the cost threshold, the claim will be paid

at the Medicare Urban or Rural Cost-to-Charge ratio.

12. Reductions to tiered per diem payment for inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital admissions with begin dates of service on or after October 1, 2011, shall be reimbursed at 95 percent of the tiered per diem rates in effect on September 30, 2011.

R9-22-712.20. Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement: Methodology for the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule

A. To establish the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For Service Schedule for all claims with a begin date of service on or before September 30, 2011, AHCCCS shall:

1. Define the dataset of claims and encounters that shall be used to establish the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule.
2. Identify all the claims and encounters from non-IHS acute hospitals located in Arizona for services to be paid under the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule.
3. Match the revenue code on each detail of each claim and encounter to the ancillary line item CCR as reported on hospital-specific mapping documents and hospital-specific Medicare Cost Report for those hospitals that have submitted Medicare Cost Reports FYE 2002.
4. Multiply the line item CCR from subsection (A)(3) by the covered billed charge for that revenue code to establish the cost for the service.
5. Inflate the cost for the service from subsection (A)(4) using Global Insight Health-Care Cost Review inflation factors from date of service month to the midpoint of the rate year in which the fees are initially effective.
6. Include associated costs under R9-22-712.25 to calculate the rates for emergency room and surgery services.
7. Combine data from all Arizona hospitals identified in subsection (A)(3) for each procedure code to establish the statewide median cost for each procedure.
8. Group procedure codes according to the Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) System groups as listed in the most recently published CMS APC documentation, and establish a statewide median cost for each APC. Multiply each statewide median APC cost by 116 percent to establish the AHCCCS-based fee for each procedure in that specific APC group. AHCCCS shall assign each procedure in the group the same fee.
9. For those procedure codes that are not grouped into any APC, establish a procedure-specific fee using either:
   a. The AHCCCS Non-hospital Capped Fee-For-Service Fee Schedule;
   b. 116 percent of the procedure-specific median cost AHCCCS-based fee; or
   c. The Medicare Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule for laboratory services.
10. Compare the AHCCCS-based fee established in subsections (A)(8) and ~~(A)(9)~~ (9) against the comparable Medicare fee established for the Medicare APC group as listed in the 69 FR 65682, November 15, 2004. The fee for each procedure shall be the greater of the AHCCCS-based fee or the Medicare fee but no more than 150 percent of the AHCCCS-based fee; however, for those laboratory services for which a limit is established in the Medicare Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule, the fee shall not exceed that limit.
11. Assign the 2005 Medicare fee in the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule for those procedures for which there are fewer than 20 occurrences of the procedure code in the dataset, either independently, or, if applicable, for all procedure codes within an APC Group.

B. For all claims with a begin date of service on or after October 1, 2011, the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-for-Service Schedule shall be derived from the CMS Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) fee schedule modified by an Arizona conversion factor determined annually ~~in accordance with R9-22-712.40(C)~~.

1. When clinic services are billed using 51X revenue codes, the reimbursement to the hospital is the difference between the facility and non-facility rates payable to the practitioner for the procedures listed in the Administration's Capped Fee-for-Service Schedule under R9-22-710.
2. Observation services, when not billed in conjunction with a service for which a single payment is made under R9-22-712.25, are reimbursed at an hourly rate published in the Outpatient Capped Fee-for-Service Schedule. This hourly rate includes reimbursement for associated services.

C. The AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule including the effective date of any changes to the listing are on file and posted on AHCCCS' web site.

R9-22-712.30. Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement: Payment for a Service Not Listed in the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule

A. AHCCCS shall calculate a statewide CCR for a service where a specific fee cannot be determined under R9-22-712.20.

B. For claims with a begin date of service on or before September 30, 2011, the statewide CCR shall be calculated based on the costs and covered charges associated with a service under subsection (A) for all Arizona hospitals, using the method specified in R9-22-712.20(A)(3).

C. For all claims with a begin date of service on or after October 1, 2011, the statewide CCR calculation shall equal either the CMS Medicare Outpatient Urban Cost-to-Charge Ratio or the CMS Medicare Outpatient Rural Cost-to-Charge Ratio published by CMS for the state of Arizona. AHCCCS shall use the urban cost-to-charge ratio for hospitals located in a county

of 500,000 residents or more and for out-of-state hospitals. AHCCCS shall use the rural cost-to-charge ratio for hospitals located in a county of fewer than 500,000 residents. On October 1st of each year, AHCCCS shall adjust urban and rural CCRs to the CCRs as published by CMS in the *Federal Register* on or before August 1st of that year.

D. To determine the payment amount for procedures where a specific fee is not determined under R9-22-712.20, the statewide CCR is multiplied by the covered charges.

E. Reductions to payments for outpatient hospital services not listed in the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule. Outpatient hospital services not listed in the AHCCCS Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule with dates of service on or after October 1, 2011, shall be reimbursed at 95 percent of the statewide CCR multiplied by the covered charges.

R9-22-712.40. Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement: Annual and Periodic Update

A. Procedure codes. When procedure codes are issued by CMS and added to the Current Procedural Terminology published by the American Medical Association, AHCCCS shall add to the Outpatient Capped Fee-for-Service Schedule the new procedure codes for covered outpatient services and shall either assign the default CCR under ~~R9-22-712.40(E)(2)~~ subsection (F)(2), the Medicare rate, or calculate an appropriate fee.

B. APC changes. AHCCCS may reassign procedure codes to new or different APC groups when APC groups are revised by CMS. AHCCCS may reassign procedure codes to a different APC group than Medicare. If AHCCCS determines that utilization of a procedure code within the Medicare program is substantially different from utilization of the procedure code in the AHCCCS program, AHCCCS may choose not to assign the procedure code to any APC group. For procedure codes not grouped into an APC by Medicare, AHCCCS may assign the code to an APC group when AHCCCS determines that the cost and resources associated with the non-assigned code are substantially similar to those in the APC group.

C. Annual update for Outpatient Hospital Fee Schedule. Beginning October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2011, AHCCCS shall adjust outpatient fee schedule rates:

1. Annually by multiplying the rates effective during the prior year by the Global Insight Prospective Hospital Market Basket Inflation Index; or
2. In a particular year the director may substitute the increases in subsection (C)(1) by calculating the dollar value associated with the inflation index in subsection (C)(1), and applying the dollar value to adjust rates at varying levels.

D. Reductions to the Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule. Claims paid using the Outpatient Capped Fee-For-Service Schedule with dates of service on or after October 1, 2011, shall be reimbursed at 95 percent of the rates in effect on September 30, 2011, subject to the annual adjustments to procedure codes and APC's under this Section.

~~**D.**~~**E.** Rebase. AHCCCS shall rebase the outpatient fees every five years.

~~**E.**~~**F.** Statewide CCR:

1. For begin dates of service on or before September 30, 2011, the statewide CCR calculated in R9-22-712.30 shall be recalculated at the time of rebasing. When rebasing, AHCCCS may recalculate the statewide CCR based on the costs and charges for services excluded from the outpatient hospital fee schedule.
2. For begin dates of service on or after October 1, 2011, the statewide CCR shall be set under R9-22-712.30(C).